Working group for assessing requirement of funds

2753. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a working group to assess, State-wise requirement of fund for the development of tourist ' infrastructure;

(b) if so, the estimate made by the working group for each i States;

(c) the amount sanctioned out of that; and

(d) the allocation made to various States from the sanctioned amount during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has not set up any working group to assess State-wise requirement of fudns for the development of tourist infrastructure.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

New Technology for Tourism Industry

2754. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new technology is set to spur the sagging Indian tourism industry which has witnessed a 15% decline during the last fiscal year;

(b) if so, whether online reservations, global distribution system, e-Holiday departments and implementation of sophisticated security systems such as swipe cards is prodding growth in the travel sector;

(c) if so, what are the other details of the new technology that is being considered to improve the tourism sector;

(d) what steps are being taken to implement these new technologies; and

(e) to what extent it has been helpful?